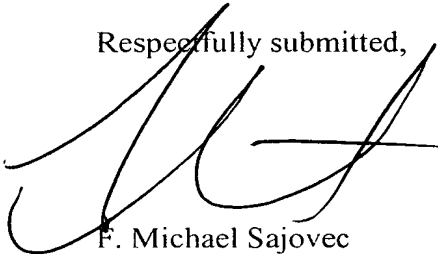


### REMARKS

Claims 1-92 are pending. Claims 1-36 are allowed. Claims 37-42 and 79-92 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 43-78 have been cancelled in this Amendment. Claims 43-78 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Verma et al. These claims have been cancelled, to expedite allowance of Claims 1-36 thus this rejection is moot. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application(s) on the withdrawn and cancelled claims.

Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance and the same is respectfully requested. Any questions that the Examiner may have regarding this correspondence can be directed to the undersigned who may be reached at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

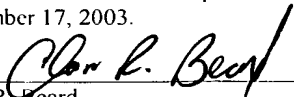


F. Michael Sajovec  
Registration No. 31,793

Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.  
P. O. Box 37428  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627  
Telephone: (919) 854-1400  
Facsimile: (919) 854-1401  
Customer No. 20792

### Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 17, 2003.



Clara R. Beard